



ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATOR EDWARD A. RATH, III

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Legislator Rath announces additional funding for Hearts and Hands

(ERIE COUNTY, NY) – Erie County Legislator Edward A. Rath, III is pleased to announce that the Legislature has supported his request for \$7,500 in funding for Hearts and Hands in the 2017 Erie County budget. The Legislature approved the funding at the Dec. 6, 2016 Budget Meeting to assist the organization in its efforts.

“Hearts and Hands provides a critical service to many towns in our community and is a lifeline for many residents. During the past few years the organization has grown significantly and I know this funding comes at a critical time in its development,” said Legislator Rath.

“Hearts and Hands receives many requests for transportation for aging adults and people with physical challenges. All our services are free and provided by trained volunteers. The funds we receive from the Legislature, championed for us by Legislator Rath, help us better respond to those requests. For some care receivers, the rides for medical appointments, grocery trips and social visits, are the only times they leave their homes each week. These funds truly help improve the health and well-being for hundreds of care receivers,” said Kathleen Occek, Executive Director of Hearts and Hands.

The additional funding was added into the 2017 budget without increasing overall spending in the next fiscal year. In fact, the property tax rate will decrease for the third consecutive year.

For information or assistance, please contact Legislator Rath’s Legislative Office at (716) 858-8676 or email Edward.rath@erie.gov.

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